

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Paul Birkmeyer et al.

Application No.: 10/708,721

Filed: March 19, 2004

Entitled: SPINAL FIXATION ELEMENTS AND METHODS

Docket No.: 101896-240 (DEP5278)

Group Art Unit: 3733

Examiner: James L. Swiger III

Certificate of Mailing (37 C.F.R. 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically filed via EFS-Web to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.

Nov. 29, 2007

Date of Signature and Mail Deposit

By: [Signature]

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Dear Sir:

Applicants submit this paper in response to the final Office Action dated October 22, 2007.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.